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BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

MARCH 10th, 1880.

Read, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and ordered to be printed.

By order,

MILTON Y. KIDD,

Chief Clerk.

REPORT

OF THE

JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE

Senate and House of Delegates,

ON

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

OF THE

STATE OF MARYLAND,

TO THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

March 10th, 1880.

ANNAPOLIS:

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REPORT.

*To the Honorable,
The Senate and House of Delegates:*

The Joint Committee on Public Institutions, beg leave to make the following report:

PENITENTIARY.

Your Committee visited the Maryland Penitentiary, in Baltimore, on January 24th, and found it in admirable condition.

There are seven hundred and eighteen prisoners in the Institution, all of whom are employed in the manufacture of shoes, plumbing-fixtures, stoves, hollow-ware, shirts, overalls, ready-made clothing and dressing marble.

Your Committee recommend that the usual appropriation be made for this Institution, although self-sustaining, it is customary to make an appropriation as a contingent fund, in the event of fire or other accident that might occur during the year.

We congratulate the State on its well managed condition by the very efficient Board of Directors and Warden Wilkinson, believing it to be one of the best managed prisons in the United States.

HOUSE OF REFUGE.

Your Committee visited the House of Refuge on January 29th, located on the Frederick road, about a mile beyond the limits of Baltimore city.

We found the buildings in a cleanly condition, and all the inmates having a healthy appearance. There are now 249 boys in this Reformatory School, whom we found employed in the manufacture of baskets, wicker-work for glass bottles and demijohns, and shoes, all being done under contract.

There is also nearly ready for work, a button factory.

A number of the boys are employed under the direction of a competent tailor in the manufacture of all the clothing worn by the boys, while others are detailed to assist in domestic work, all the work of the Reformatory being done by the boys themselves, under the direction of the different heads of the several departments.

Considerable attention is given to the mental training of the boys, and a number are well advanced in the different branches of education.

The State has been greatly benefited by this Institution, as many otherwise incorrigible boys have been so trained and educated that they became good citizens thereafter, and as an evidence of the excellent discipline and humane treatment, it is worthy of notice that of 30 boys employed in one of the shops, not a single case during the year was reported for misdemeanor, and of the 135 boys who were granted leave of absence to visit their friends during the year, only four failed to return.

The first Board of this Institution was organized in 1849, and was opened for the occupation of inmates in 1855.

It was the third Institution of the kind established in this country, the others being in New York and Boston.

It was built mainly by the contributions of men, whose names are proverbial for charitable donations, and at the time it was erected, was considered the best constructed building for the purpose of a Reformatory.

The dormitories consist of small rooms, resembling cells, which give it a prison-like appearance, an objectionable feature, much of which has been removed, by leaving the doors open and allowing the boys a choice between occupying one of the cells or sleeping in one of the larger rooms, in which there are a number of beds.

As their means are now limited, and are only sufficient, by the strictest economy, to defray the current expenses, the Board of Managers are unable to make such changes as would make it conform to the ideas of the present day, or model it after the Reformatories of more recent construction.

The gentlemen, who from time to time have composed the Board of Managers, are amongst the best of our citizens, devoting much of their time and attention to the good work rendered by the Refuge, which, like its kindred Institution, "St. Mary's Industrial School for Boys," is well worthy the fostering care of the State.

Your Committee would recommend, in addition to the usual appropriation made for the support of this Reformatory school, \$10,000 be appropriated, for the purpose of effecting the necessary changes and general repairs of the buildings.

ST. MARY'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

Your Committee next visited the "St. Mary's Industrial School for Boys," situated on the Frederick turnpike, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Baltimore, a solid and handsome stone structure, with all the modern improvements for buildings of this class.

Your Committee were much gratified to witness the great economy, good management, and active industry displayed, and of which you will find a fair and truthful exhibit in the Eleventh Annual Report of the Managers, which has been placed before you.

There are 386 boys in this Reformatory School, all of whom are engaged in useful occupations, the principal features of which are shoemaking, printing, basket-making, tailoring and farming. Particular attention is given to the education of the boys, a number of whom are well advanced, with a prospect of future distinction, through the instrumentalities of this noble and charitable Institution which we believe, in point of management and adaptability, is second to none in the country, and we therefore recommend that a liberal appropriation be made for its support.

INSANE ASYLUM.

Your Committee next visited the "Maryland Hospital for the Insane," near Catonsville, Baltimore county.

We found the buildings in good condition, with every evidence of cleanliness and good management in all its departments.

There are at present 341 inmates of all kinds, which, in the concurring opinion of your Committee and the managers, is much beyond the capacity of the buildings to properly accommodate, more room being absolutely necessary to grade the different forms of insanity, keeping each grade distinct and separate from the other.

Aside from this, there are the criminal insane and the colored insane, which, in consequence of the inadequacy of room, it is impossible to classify and separate.

The managers ask an appropriation of \$50,000, for the purpose of erecting additional buildings, which your Com-

mittee, after a careful examination, is fully convinced should be made.

By the Act of 1876, chapter 351, you will find the law requires the Board of Directors to consist of nine persons, and under the law seven members are required to be present to transact business.

Your Committee recommend that this law be changed so that five members will constitute a working quorum.

We also call your attention to the Report of the Hon. Barnes Compton, Treasurer of the Institution, in which he states that 16 counties are in arrears in their payments, one of them as much as \$3,775, and the indebtedness of all amounting to \$16,815.53. This is manifestly unjust to Baltimore city and the counties which pay promptly.

It is to be hoped the managers will take proper steps to collect these amounts.

The State being the owner of this institution, expending upon it an aggregate of one million dollars, it should be properly sustained by liberal appropriations.

Sooner or later the State will be compelled to make this appropriation, and your Committee believe that it is now absolutely necessary.

We also recommend an additional appropriation of \$10,000, for the purpose of securing a more certain, convenient and permanent water supply, and the proper and necessary sewerage of the buildings.

This is of vital importance, and should not be neglected or delayed.

HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

Your Committee visited the House of Correction on February 5th.

This Institution was found to be in every respect worthy, for which the Board of Management, the Superintendent and Officers are to be commended.

The building is of brick, and is a handsome structure, with all the modern improvements required.

It is the best located public building in the State, being about one-eighth of a mile distant from Bridewell Station, on the Washington Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, with tracks running to the building, where fuel or raw material for manufacture or manufactured articles can be

taken in cars to and removed from the doors of the buildings. This, in point of convenience and economy, will be a source of great saving in expense to the Institution.

The supply of pure water is abundant, being pumped to a reservoir, having a capacity of $2\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons.

A number of residents in the locality are now using this water, for which they pay a rental, and as the surrounding country is being rapidly built up, it is fair to presume that those who build hereafter, will avail themselves of this desirable convenience.

The present building has a capacity for 400 prisoners, although there are at present but 189 inmates, all of whom are employed at useful labor; 103 are hired out under contract in the manufacture of clothing, the balance are employed in domestic work, and in making roads and clearing land for cultivation.

The prisoners are all healthy and cleanly, a decided improvement on their condition previous to their committal.

They belong principally to a class known as vagrants, drunkards and professional tramps, who, while at large, are leeches on the public, disturbing the peace and annoying good citizens.

Your Committee is fully convinced that the expenditure in erecting this building by the State, was a wise one, and we therefore recommend, that in addition to the usual amount appropriated for the support of the Institution, that \$27,000 be appropriated for the purpose of erecting workshops, and perfecting roadways and drainage.

As a bill is now before the General Assembly, giving Magistrates the authority to commit directly to this prison, the number of commitments will be largely augmented at an early date, filling the prison to its full capacity, thus necessitating workshops, where all can be employed, which will result in the Institution being self-sustaining.

The prisoners are now fed at an expense of 10 cents per day, being only one cent in excess of the Penitentiary, a result quite gratifying, in view of the fact that the prison has been only one year in operation, proving that if properly sustained by the State now, no further appropriations will be required for its support.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Your Committee next visited the Maryland Agricultural College, located one mile distant from College Station, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

Upon investigation and due consideration your Committee is of the opinion, that if there ever was, there is no reason now, why the State should make any further appropriation for this College, as we do not believe the State is materially benefited thereby.

By the Acts of 1866, chapter 53, the State became half owner of this College at a cost of \$45,000.

We recommend that the following Acts relating to said College be repealed:

The Acts of 1856, chapter 97, under which law the College was endowed with \$6,000 annually.

The Acts of 1864, chapter 90, and the Acts of 1872, chapter 415.

Under these last two Acts the College received the benefit from certain Public Land Scrip, donated to the State by an Act of Congress.

And your Committee further recommend, that the Board of Public Works be authorized to sell the State's interest in said College.

In making these suggestions, we beg leave to say it is not our intention to reflect any discredit on the Board of Managers or the President, but offer these recommendations solely in the conviction that this College is of no further benefit to the State, and any further expenditure unnecessary.

DEAF AND DUMB ASYLUM.

Your Committee, on February 13th, visited the Maryland Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb, located in the City of Frederick, and gave it a thorough examination.

The building is situated on high ground in a commanding position, and is of great architectural beauty, having all the modern conveniences, being well lighted and ventilated.

It was built by the State at a cost of \$151,000, upon ground the property of the State, which was used as a camp during the Revolutionary war, on which a part of the old barracks still remains, and is used for the purpose of workshops where furniture and shoes are manufactured, and a number of the pupils are learning these trades.

There are at present 99 pupils being educated, for whom the greatest parental care is exercised.

Your Committee were highly pleased to witness the great proficiency of the pupils, children of tender years writing

their lessons with rapidity and intelligence, responding to the silent manual language of their teachers with surprising promptitude. All the printing for the Institution, including the Biennial Report, is the work of the pupils.

It is intended by the Board of Managers to introduce other trades, but the amount appropriated has not been sufficient to cover the additional expenditure.

Previous to 1878, the State appropriated \$30,000 for its annual support, but the Board of Managers thought, by economy, \$25,000 per year would be sufficient for the years 1879 and 1880, and so informed the Legislature at its last Session.

They received \$25,000 for the year 1879, but by reference to the Acts of 1878, chapter 331, it will be seen that for the fiscal year commencing October 1st, 1879, and ending September 30th, 1880, the Legislature only appropriated \$20,000, thus leaving a deficiency of \$5,000, which embarrasses the Managers.

Your Committee cheerfully recommend the usual annual appropriation of \$25,000, and the \$5,000 omitted for the fiscal year ending September 30th, 1880.

We feel convinced that the amount asked for is just and moderate, as it is universally admitted that these unfortunate children are peculiarly the wards of the State, and that the praiseworthy charity already bestowed should be continued to the full amount that may be required for their education and support, as the State, by educating these children, is doing a work, which, in a majority of cases, their parents are unable to do. We are informed there are about 400 deaf and dumb children in the State. We suggest that some means should be used, by which the parents could be found, and the great advantages of this school placed before them, so that their children may have the opportunity of receiving the training and education necessary to fit them for the useful walks of life.

We cannot commend too highly the cleanliness, order, system and general management of this Institution, the progress and conduct of the children, under skillful teachers, which reflects credit upon themselves, and stands as a monument to the charity, benevolence and humanity of the people of Maryland.

COLORED HOUSE OF REFUGE.

Your Committee, on Feby. 28th, visited the House of Reformation for Colored Children, at Cheltenham, Prince George's county.

This much needed Institution was established about 6 years ago on a farm of 750 acres, donated for the purpose by Enoch Pratt, mainly through whose instrumentality it was founded, and has since been so successfully conducted.

There are 5 substantial brick buildings, with farmhouse, barns and sheds, all in first-class order, and fitted with all necessary but no superfluous conveniences.

The buildings are amply supplied with pure water by water-works erected on the farm, and with gas by gas-works constructed and operated outside the buildings.

Since the organization of the Institution, about 600 boys have been cared for, trained and educated, fitting them for useful lives.

At present there are 189 boys, the average attendance for the past year being 215. Some of these are employed in the manufacture of shoes, clothing and chair-making, the balance in farm work and domestic purposes.

The mechanical department for the instruction of different trades will be extended as soon as means will permit.

The comfort, cleanliness, education and training of these unfortunate children is a matter of gratification, as without this Reformatory school, there can be no doubt these boys would grow up in ignorance, idleness and crime—a source of danger and future expense to the State as criminals.

During the last session of the Legislature, the usual annual appropriation of \$10,000 was reduced to \$8,000, which your present Committee believe was a mistake, and therefore recommend the restoration of the usual appropriation of \$10,000.

Your Committee would specially commend the Superintendent, Genl. J. W. Horn and his assistants, who so well perform laborious duties not always of the most agreeable character.

BLIND ASYLUM.

Your Committee, on February 23d, visited the "Maryland Institution for the Instruction of the Blind," located on Boundary avenue, Baltimore county. The building is a solid stone structure, handsome in appearance, complete in detail, comfortably furnished, and beautifully situated in its surroundings. There are at present 71 inmates, 51 of whom are beneficiaries of the State, the others from the District of Columbia, and paid for by the General Government, at the rate of \$300 per year for each pupil. We highly commend

the management, order, system and progress of this Institution, and cheerfully recommend the annual appropriation of \$15,000, for its support.

We also visited on same day, the Institution for Colored Blind and Deaf Mutes, 258 Saratoga street, Baltimore.

Previous to 1873, there was no separate instruction for this class of colored people, when a special appropriation was made for that purpose.

By a special Act of the last session of the Legislature, the Managers were compelled to move from their location on Broadway, to their original place, where they now are.

We found them very comfortably situated, and the management and progress satisfactory. There are now 31 inmates, 16 of whom are Deaf Mutes, and fifteen Blind. We recommend the annual appropriation of \$8,500 for its support, believing it to be beneficial and necessary.

Boys' HOME.

Your Committee next visited the Boys' Home, in Baltimore city.

This Institution was founded 13 years ago, by the voluntary contributions of charitable persons. The building is large and convenient, with the exception of a study room and library, which is much needed.

The Institution was established for the purpose of encouraging, educating and assisting homeless and friendless boys to obtain employment and procure an honest livelihood. There are now in the Home 67 boys, 55 of whom are in employment, at wages averaging from one to four dollars per week. The ages of the boys range from one to eighteen years. This Institution is doing a noble work. It is unsectarian and most economically administered. It helps poor boys to help themselves, and finds work for them at fair wages. It teaches them to read, write, cipher, to be economical, cleanly, temperate, virtuous, industrious, obedient and self-reliant, and tends to prevent vagrancy, pauperism and crime. It supports no boy in idleness, but opens its doors to every homeless applicant willing to work, and has no bars, bolts or locks.

Your Committee willingly recommend an annual appropriation of \$1,000, and an additional \$500, for the purpose of enlarging library, and preparing a study room for the boys.

HOUSE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

Your Committee next visited the House of the Good Shepherd, an Institution founded in 1864, on a square of ground in the City of Baltimore, donated by the late Mrs. MacTavish, and on which a large and handsome building, with all modern improvements and conveniences has been erected, by charitable contributions.

It has for its object the reformation of abandoned and disorderly females, and the preservation of young girls and children without protection, and in danger of being led to ruin. Since its foundation it has given shelter to 901 persons, of these 494 have been returned to their families or placed in situations, 134 have left after remaining for periods of 3 months to 5 years, 47 were dismissed as incorrigible, 45 have died, and 181 are at present in the House.

By the contributions of generous benefactors, the Institution has been enlarged by additional buildings, not however sufficiently extensive to accommodate comfortably its present inmates, as well as compelling the denial of almost daily applicants for admission, of which your Committee had sufficient proof in seeing beds arranged for the inmates along the passages.

By an enactment of 1878, the sum of \$2,000 was appropriated for the support of inmates committed under sections 2, 3 and 7, at the rate of 20 cents per diem. There are at present 55 committed from various portions of the State, for whom no remuneration has been received since July, 1879.

The inmates are classified with reference to their condition, and are employed at the various branches of needlework. Your Committee, as a result of their investigation and approval of the management and results of this humane and benevolent Institution, recommend an annual appropriation of \$2,000, and a special appropriation of \$10,000 for the absolutely necessary enlargement of the buildings.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

Your Committee, on February 28th, visited the "Maryland Industrial School for Girls," located at Mount Zephyr, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, 10 miles from Baltimore city.

This Institution was established 13 years since, by the liberality of Mr. Patterson, who gave \$15,000, and others who subscribed \$10,000, with which was purchased 54 acres of land with large residence and outhouses, with title vested in the State.

There is an average of 30 girls in the school, where their mental, moral and physical training is attended with the most beneficial results.

Your Committee regret that the accommodations are so entirely inadequate for this important Institution, not alone in the lack of a sufficiently large building, but the present building is in a most dilapidated condition, requiring continual expense for repairs.

We, therefore, deem it absolutely necessary, that in addition to the annual appropriation of \$3,000, a new building of a substantial character should be erected, and for this purpose we earnestly recommend an appropriation of \$10,000, so that this noble and charitable work of reclaiming and fitting young girls for useful and virtuous lives, may be enlarged in its sphere of action.

HOME OF THE FRIENDLESS.

Your Committee, on February 28th, visited the "Home of the Friendless," on Druid Hill avenue, Baltimore city.

This Institution has two large brick buildings for boys and girls, respectively.

The Institution was founded in 1854, through the efforts of the benevolent, for the purpose of rearing, supporting and educating foundling and destitute children, and since that time have provided for 1,665 children, many of whom were sent to the McDonough School.

At present there are 130 children cared for and educated entirely by the charity and efforts of the ladies and gentlemen who compose its Board of Managers. The present handsome buildings were constructed in 1861, at a cost of \$50,000, defrayed by a legacy by Mrs. Cooper, voluntary contributions and State support. The children are often taken when mere infants, and are kept until they are 12 or 14 years of age, when, with the advantage of moral training and education, homes are provided, and the pathway of life smoothed for them.

Previous to 1864, the State appropriated \$5,000 per year for its support, and since that time until 1874, the amount was yearly decreased, after which year the State has not made any appropriation.

Your Committee were highly gratified with the management and appointments of the Institution, and cannot too highly commend the humane sentiment and generous action of the ladies and gentlemen who reach out their hands to save and

bless the helpless child, who otherwise would grow up in the haunts of crime, a source of danger and expense to the State. We heartily recommend an appropriation of \$3,000 per year towards its support.

MARYLAND INSTITUTE.

Your Committee would report with reference to the "Maryland Institute for the Promotion of the Mechanic Arts," that it was founded in 1849, for the purpose of holding exhibitions of the production of the mechanic and useful arts, the establishment of schools of art and design, a circulating library, and in other ways advancing the manufacturing and mechanical interest of the State.

It is located in the City of Baltimore, over the Centre Market, and has been in successful operation ever since it was established.

Twenty-seven exhibitions have been held, the last in the fall of 1878.

A large circulating library and annual course of lectures are provided for the membership, but the principal feature is the schools of art and design.

These have been availed of during the last 30 years, by thousands of young men and women, at a merely nominal price of tuition, and there are now nearly 500 pupils, male and female, in its schools.

The schools are in active operation day and night, and in the night schools, in almost every branch young mechanics are engaged in learning to draw and design.

The Institute supplies a most important kind of education, not available in any other mode in our midst, and to a class of students who are unable to devote any portion of the daytime to its acquisition.

Industrial art is the aim of the Institute, though among its former pupils there are many who have gone on into high art and reflected great credit upon their early teachers at the Institute.

Rhinehart, whose statue of Chief Justice Taney stands at the State House door, was a graduate of the Institute; Bolton, Jones, Dietrich, Herring, Scott, and many other artists of distinction; Fredericks, Carson Weber, Olhaber, and other architects, whose buildings will remain as monuments of their skill and taste, were boys in the Institute schools, while skilled mechanics of almost every branch may be found in our own State and elsewhere, whose success

has been largely if not mainly attributable to the advantages enjoyed by them in the schools of the Institute.

No Institution in our midst is considered more deserving of the small annual appropriation of \$3,000, provided by the recent extension of the Institute charter, passed in 1878, and the continuance of which your Committee cheerfully recommends.

ST. VINCENT'S INFANT ASYLUM.

Your Committee, on March 6th, visited "St. Vincent's Infant Asylum," in Baltimore city.

This Institution was founded in 1857, by charitable contributions, since which time it has built a large and substantial brick structure with ample accommodations and all conveniences, and is managed and conducted admirably and economically.

During its existence, more than 5,000 infants have been provided for, and at the present time has 125 under its care. The children are principally foundlings, picked up in the streets, and committed to the care of the Asylum by the State authorities. The State formerly appropriated \$500 per annum towards its support, but since 1872, has failed to do so.

As your Committee look upon this Institution as a humane and necessary one, in the prevention of infanticide, and the care and protection of otherwise helpless infants, we cheerfully recommend an appropriation of \$5,000 for 2 years.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR.

Your Committee on same day visited the Institution known as "The Little Sisters of the Poor," located in Baltimore city, occupying a very large, convenient and comfortable brick structure, which was erected in 1870, at the cost of \$70,000.

This Institution is a most worthy one, being established for the care of the aged, poor and infirm, who having neither friends or home, are kindly and charitably cared for here.

It has been supported entirely by charitable contributions, and at present provides for 200 persons of both sexes, who are taken without reference to nationality or religion, several of whom are upwards of 100 years old.

The managers are in debt to the amount of \$25,000, and, as may be supposed, have great difficulty in providing for these aged unfortunates, who otherwise would be a heavy charge to the State.

This Institution never had an appropriation from the State, and in view of the good its does, your Committee willingly recommend an appropriation of \$5,000 for 2 years.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, your Committee desire to congratulate the State upon its charitable, benevolent, reformatory and other Institutions, many of them having their offspring in the philanthropic impulses of generous hearts, who have an eye to see, an ear to hear, and a hand to help and save suffering and unfortunate humanity, and whose watchful care and unpaid services are given to the management of Institutions, which, by their mental and moral training of the unfortunate classes, become a benefit to the community, and an honor to the State, preventing crime in its conception, and turning the wayward to the surer and safer paths of virtue, morality and usefulness.

Your Committee, impressed with the results of a close personal investigation, and believing that an "ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure," believe that it is better, wiser and cheaper to liberally support these Institutions now, than incur the care and expense of punishing their inmates as criminals hereafter. We therefore trust your Honorable Body will endorse, with your approval and action, the several recommendations herein submitted.

WM. H. BIANS,

Chairman Senate Committee.

MATT. W. DONAVIN

Chairman House Committee.

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